JDW, JL,HR: news and more news od Anson's/Bantam ripoff 9/17/75

While there to after lunch has been no National Enquirer decision on ancillary reports to PM reported, there is news that means I can ppint without going farthur into debt if they reject.

This first because on a day of interruptions another is scheduled soon.

Jim McKinley phoned to convey Playboy's offer for me to be a consultant on its assassinations section of its series of violence. The fee puts the escrow account over the amount needed to meet the firm printers' estimate!

Friends will want this good news. I don't know how much work it means but there appears to be nothing not in accord with my views in the project as outlined to now.

Jim asked me if I know anything about the Anson/~~Rkxxxx~~ Bantam book. It happens that this had troubled me and I carboned JL and JDW with early a.m. letters to the Bantam president and Walter Glanze. About a week ago I'd heard that there was a contract for the book. Yesterday Bob Woodward (this for HR) told me of Bantam's enthusiasm for it. Meaning the commercial possibilities as of today, profit, not literary value or merit.

My response to McKinley is that I'd seen nothing of his in his articles, ripoffs of my stuff, and that I'd tried to sell ancillary rights to New Times ~~t~~through him. (Counsellor, in filing I discovered that I have records.)

McKinley replied that Playboy's information is that it is all ripoff, that Anson is a hustler who is ~~aa~~ out for a fast buck and big rep, that the manuscript is completed, and that they would like to get a copy.

Anson, as I did not explain earlier, is also an official of WNET-TV, NYC, which broke its deal with me on Black Journal. (Counsellor:good records again.) I went there only on the understanding, specific understanding, that how to get my books would be aired with me on the show. The deal was broken and I wasn't told until I was in the studio. Without this I'd not have gone to NYC for a meaningless (to me) show.

It also turns out that he has some kind of Scott et al connection. This can mean that the Scott gang has been feeding him. Until we know we don't.

However, with the manuscript in, even a short ~~xxxx~~ one from a magazine's contributing editor and a TV station's executive, the clear meaning is that this is not exactly new, that he has to have been working on it for some time, and we perhaps have an explanation of his not coming here when he was supposed to have.

HR: when you read any of his pieces, and one from New Times ~~wasx~~ reprinted in ~~Kpxt~~ Skeptic, please record published sources of his uncredited stuff.

The book is due in November.

JL: please consider whether, if there has not been a satisfactory response by the time you finish the Ray appeal, if you want to write a letter for me. McKinley says the Anson advance was somewhere in six figures. For work based on the ripped-off yet!

Best,